

very negligent correspondent,
I trust that, if my life be spared,
I may be somewhat better
hereafter, & the rather, since
I am now relieved from the
labour & anxieties of business,
which, formerly, weighed very
heavily upon me, at times -

With love to your dear
(busy!) man, & kind regards
to Dr. Hooker, I am,

My dear Mr. Gray
Always, & affecy yours
Geo. Carey

Mr. Gray -

1869

Blackheath
Saty Morny.

My dear Mrs. Gray -

Thanks - for your kind
letter, by which I perceive
that your days almost
hours - are all filled up,
which I can well enough
understand -

I have not crossed our
threshold for more than a
week, but, should the wea-
ther be at all tolerable,
I will endeavour to see

you at the Nat^l Gallery,
on Wednesday, at your proposed
You mention no time, but
I suppose, about 1 o'clock
will find you there -

If, contrary to present
appearances, Monday should
be a fine & mild day, I
may perhaps be induced to
avail myself of it, by endeavoring
to meet you at the
Brit. Museum, at about the
same hour - Unfortunately,
I must be influenced by
weather, & the consequent
irritability (more or less) of

my breathing apparatus -
I trust that one of the two
days may be propitious -

I had not heard of the birth
of dear Fanny's grandchild -
I earnestly hope that it may
add something to his happiness,
no less than to that of the dear
girl's - Give my congratulations
& kindest regards to them
when you return -

Certainly, my dear Mr. Gray,
nothing could be further from
my wish or thought than to
"drop you quite" - tho' "out of
sight," you will neither of you
be "out of mind" - & altho' I have
heretofore been a bad - indeed